BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention--;

in line 3, before "invention" insert --present--;

in lines 4 and 5, delete "according to the preamble of patent claim 1.";

after line 5, insert --

Description of the Related Art--;

in line 6, before "DE 4408327 A1" insert --German Patent Document--;

in line 8, delete "[...]" and insert --the document data--;

in line 10, delete "storages" and insert --storage devices--;

in line 16, change "original" to --originals--;

in line 18, delete "species" and insert --type--;

in line 22, after "IPDS" insert --(Intelligent Printer Data Stream)-- and after "PCL" insert --(Printer Command Language)--; and

in line 30, after "TIF" insert --(Tagged Image File)--.

On substitute page 2, in line 8, delete "in the archiving" and insert --when archived--;

in line 9, after "COLD" insert --(Computer Output to Laser Disk)--;

in line 14, before "DE 195 15 981 A1" insert --German Patent Document--;

in line 16, before "pre-print" insert --out-- and delete "out"; and

in line 21, before "EP 654-746 A2" insert --European Patent Document--.

On substitute page 2a, after line 6, insert --

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

in line 10, delete "is" and insert --and others are-- and delete "described in patent claim 1." and insert --of a method for electronic archiving of the data stream output by a computer in a computer-specific data format that contains graphic and/or text information, whereby the data stream is converted from the printer-specific data format into a data format based on pixels, form data being distinguished from variable data in the data stream based on pixels; and these two data types being respectively differently processed.--;

in line 11, delete "the subclaims." and insert --that references to the form data are made. A form dataset of identical form data is stored only once within a predetermined data group, whereas the allocated variable data of all datasets of the data group (or job) are all respectively stored. A distinction is made between form data and variable data which ensues in the printer-specific data format. Preferably, form indicators for recognizing form data are sought in the data stream. The data of the data stream are first investigated in groups for form data, and the allocation between the variable data and the form data only ensues given repeated occurrence of form data. Overlay information, particularly control information, macro information, graphic information, predetermined text modules and/or predetermined text attributes may be employed as form indicators. A form dataset is stored after the first occurrence within the predetermined data group of the print data stream and is only marked as a form dataset, converted into a form bitmap and allocated to the appertaining variable dataset after a repeated, particularly a second, occurrence.

According to one embodiment, a work sequence, either printing or archiving is optionally implemented or printing and archiving are simultaneously implemented. The form data are not stored in the archive storage, in one development of the invention. The original pixel image is reconstructed from the form data and the variable data. References are used to superimpose the form

data. An index dataset may be generated. The index dataset of a preferred embodiment contains a reference to the variable data, particularly to the form data.

The present invention also provides an apparatus for electronic archiving of the data stream output by a computer in a printer-specific data format that contains graphic and/or text information, whereby the print data stream is converted from the printer-specific data format into a data format based on pixels, an archiving interface being provided that differently processes form data in the data format based on pixels and variable data. In the apparatus, a printer controller that transfers variable data, form data and index data to a further-processing computer via an interface. The processing units of the further-processing computer are integrated in the printer controller. Preferably, a distinction is made between form data and variable data in the archiving interface. The data stream is investigated in the printer-specific data format for distinguishing between form data and variable data.--.

On page 3, in line 1, before "invention" insert --present--;
in line 3, delete "deposited" and insert --included--;
in line 4, change "reoccurring" to --re-occurring-- and delete "one and";
in line 14, change "job" to --in a job--;
in line 24, after "COLD" insert --(Computer Output to Laser Disk)--; and
in line 31, before "bitmap" insert --a--.

On page 4, in line 10, after "IPDS" insert --(Intelligent Printer Data Stream);
in line 11, after "PCL" insert --(Printer Command Language)--;
in line 19, change "form" to --forms--; and

in line 30, delete "controlled" and insert --under control--.

On page 5, in line 3, delete "said" and insert --the--;
in line 5, change "carry [sic]" to --transfer--;
in line 6, change "to [sic]" to --from--;
in line 8, delete "the drive of" and insert --driving--;
in line 10, change "ensues" to --ensue--;
in line 12, after "form" insert --data--;
in line 13, before "variable" insert --the--;
after line 17, insert --

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

in line 20, delete "two [sic]" and insert --the--;
in line 21, delete "Shown are:";
in line 22, after "Figure 1" insert --is a functional block diagram of--;
in line 23, after "Figure 2" insert --is a block diagram of--;
in line 24, change "Figure 3" to --Figures 3a and 3b are flow charts of--;
in line 26, change "Figure 4" to --Figures 4a and 4b are flow charts--;
in line 27, after "Figure 5" insert --is a flow chart of--; and
after line 28, insert --

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

On page 6, in line 26, before "reference" insert --a--; and
in line 27, before "indirect" insert --an--.

On page 7, in line 3, change "example ASCII" to --example an ASCII format--.